

In the claims:

1. (currently amended) A device for compressing the chest of a patient, said device comprising:

a platform upon which a patient can rest;

a belt operably connected to the platform and adapted to extend at least partially around the chest of the patient, said belt further adapted for anterior-posterior compression of the patient;

a motor operatively connected to the belt, wherein the motor is capable of driving the belt with sufficient force such that the belt can compresses the chest of the patient with an anterior-posterior compression;

a drive spool operatively attached to the motor and to the belt;

a spindle operably connected to the platform;

wherein the belt is disposed around the patient and then around the spindle disposing the spindle between the belt and the patient; and

a bladder disposed between the belt and ~~the patient the patient's sternum~~, said bladder being filled with a pressure transmitting medium.

2. (original) A device for compressing the chest of a patient, said device comprising:

a platform upon which a patient can rest;

a belt operably connected to the platform and adapted to extend at least partially around the chest of the

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patient, said belt further adapted for anterior-posterior compression of the patient;

a motor operatively connected to the belt, wherein the motor is capable of driving the belt with sufficient force such that the belt can compresses the chest of the patient;

a drive spool operatively connected to the motor and the belt;

a first spindle operably connected to the platform and disposed to the right of the patient, a second spindle operably connected to the platform and disposed to the left of the patient, and a third spindle operatively connected to the platform and disposed beneath the patient;

wherein the belt is disposed around the first spindle, around the patient, around the second spindle, and around the third spindle; and

a bladder disposed between the belt and the patient said bladder being filled with a pressure transmitting medium.

3. (original) The device of claim 2 wherein the distance between the first spindle and the second spindle is in the range of about 12 inches to about 20 inches.

4. (original) The device of claim 2 wherein the first spindle and the second spindle are disposed such that the device, when used on the patient, will perform anterior-posterior compressions on the patient.

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5. (original) The device of claim 2 wherein the first spindle and the second spindle are disposed posterior of the spine of the patient when the patient is placed on the device.

6. (original) The device of claim 2 wherein the first spindle and the second spindle are disposed laterally of the spine and are disposed posterior of the scapula of the patient when the patient is placed on the device.

7. (original) The device of claim 2 wherein the first spindle is disposed about in the area of the left axilla of the patient and the second spindle is disposed about in the area of the right axilla of the patient when the patient is placed on the device.

8. (currently amended) A device for compressing the chest of a patient, said device comprising:

a platform upon which the patient can rest;

a belt operably connected to the platform and adapted to extend at least partially around the chest of the patient, said belt further adapted for anterior-posterior compression of the patient;

a motor operatively connected to the belt, wherein the motor is capable of driving the belt with sufficient force such that the belt can compresses the chest of the patient with an anterior-posterior compression;

a first spindle operably connected to the platform and a second spindle operably connected to the platform; and

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wherein the belt is adapted to extend around the first and second spindles and around the chest of the patient disposing the first spindle and the second spindle between the belt and the patient.

9. (original) The device of claim 8 wherein the distance between the first spindle and the second spindle is in the range of about 12 inches to about 20 inches.

10. (original) The device of claim 8 wherein the first spindle and the second spindle are disposed such that the device, when used on the patient, will perform anterior-posterior compressions on the patient.

11. (original) The device of claim 8 wherein the first spindle and the second spindle are disposed posterior of the spine of the patient when the patient is placed on the device.

12. (original) The device of claim 8 wherein the first and second spindles are disposed on opposite sides of the spine, laterally displaced from the spine, when the patient is placed on the device.

13. (original) The device of claim 8 wherein the first spindle is disposed under the left scapula of the patient and the second spindle is disposed under of the right scapula of the patient when the patient is placed on the device.

14. (original) The device of claim 8 wherein the first spindle is disposed in the area posterior of the left axilla of the patient and the second spindle is disposed about in the area posterior of the right axilla of the patient when the patient is placed on the device.

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15. (original) The device of claim 13 wherein the distance between the first spindle and the second spindle is in the range of about 12 inches to about 20 inches.

16. (original) The device of claim 14 wherein the distance between the first spindle and the second spindle is in the range of about 12 inches to about 20 inches.

17. (currently amended) A method of performing chest compressions on a patient, said method comprising the steps of:

providing a device for performing chest compressions, said device comprising:

a platform upon which the patient can rest;

a belt operably connected to the platform and adapted to extend at least partially around the chest of the patient, said belt further adapted for anterior-posterior compression of the patient;

a motor operatively connected to the belt, wherein the motor is capable of driving the belt with sufficient force such that the belt can compresses the chest of the patient;

a first spindle operably connected to the platform and a second spindle operably connected to the platform;

wherein the belt is adapted to extend around the first and second spindles and around the chest of the patient disposing the spindle between the belt and the patient;

operably connecting the device to the patient; and

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compressing the chest of the patient with an anterior-posterior compression of the chest of the patient.

18. (original) The method of claim 17 wherein the step of providing a device further comprises providing a device where the first spindle is disposed about in the area posterior of the left axilla of the patient and the second spindle is disposed about in the area posterior of the right axilla of the patient when the device is operably connected to the patient, and wherein the step of connecting the device to the patient comprises the steps of:

placing the back of the patient on the platform; and
securing the belt on the patient such that the belt extends around the first and second spindles and around the chest of the patient.

19. (currently amended) A method of performing chest compressions on a patient, said method comprising the steps of:

providing a device for performing chest compressions, said device comprising:

a platform upon which a patient can rest;

a belt operably connected to the platform and adapted to extend at least partially around the chest of the patient, said belt further adapted for anterior-posterior compression of the patient;

a motor operatively connected to the belt, wherein the motor is capable of driving the belt with sufficient

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force such that the belt can compresses the chest of the patient;

a drive spool operatively attached to the motor and to the belt;

a spindle operably connected to the platform;

wherein the belt is disposed around the patient and then around the spindle; and

a bladder disposed between the belt and the patient, said bladder being filled with a pressure transmitting medium;

operably connecting the device to the patient; and

compressing the chest of the patient with an anterior-posterior compression of the chest of the patient.

20. (original) The method of claim 19 wherein the step of providing a device further comprises providing a device where the spindle is disposed about in the area posterior of the spine of the patient when the device is operably connected to the patient, and wherein the step of connecting the device to the patient comprises the steps of:

placing the back of the patient on the platform; and

securing the belt on the patient such that the belt extends around the spindle and around the chest of the patient.

21. (currently amended) A method of performing chest compressions on a patient, said method comprising the steps of:

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providing a device for performing chest compressions, said device comprising:

a platform upon which a patient can rest;

a belt operably connected to the platform and adapted to extend at least partially around the chest of the patient, said belt further adapted for anterior-posterior compression of the patient;

a motor operatively connected to the belt, wherein the motor is capable of driving the belt with sufficient force such that the belt can compresses the chest of the patient;

a drive spool operatively connected to the motor and the belt;

a first spindle operably connected to the platform and disposed to the right of the patient, a second spindle operably connected to the platform and disposed to the left of the patient, and a third spindle operatively connected to the platform and disposed beneath the patient;

wherein the belt is disposed around the first spindle, around the patient, around the second spindle, and around the third spindle; and

a bladder disposed between the belt and the patient, said bladder being filled with a pressure transmitting medium;

operably connecting the device to the patient; and

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compressing the chest of the patient with an anterior-posterior compression of the chest of the patient.

22. (original) The method of claim 21 wherein the step of providing a device further comprises providing a device where the first spindle is disposed about in the area posterior of the left scapula of the patient, the second spindle is disposed about in the area posterior of the right scapula of the patient and the third spindle is disposed about in the area posterior of the spine of the patient when the device is operably connected to the patient, and wherein the step of connecting the device to the patient comprises the steps of:

placing the back of the patient on the platform; and securing the belt on the patient such that the belt extends around the first, second and third spindles and around the chest of the patient.